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Environmental Quality Council

STATE OF MONTANA

EQ NEWS

Box 215, Capitol Station, Helena, MT 59601

Vol. 1, No. 19

Senator Elmer Flynn, Chairman

May 6, 1974

Loren L. Bahls, Acting Director

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ANACONDA VARIANCE REQUEST

On May 1 the Department of Health and Environmental Sciences (DHES) released a final environmental impact statement (EIS) for the air pollution variance request by the Anaconda Company for its smelter at Anaconda, Montana. The department concluded that the benefits that might result from granting the variance would be more than negated by impacts on the environment and the public, and therefore recommended that the State Board of Health and Environmental Sciences deny the variance.

An ongoing public hearing on the variance request has been scheduled to begin May 20 in Helena. The hearing will move to Anaconda and later back to Helena, and may last as long as two weeks.

The hearing will be adjudicatory in nature and all parties will be afforded the opportunity to present evidence and argument on all issues involved. All persons wishing to participate as public witnesses for either side are urged to attend.

Copies of the final EIS on the variance request are available from the Environmental Sciences Division of the DHES, Helena, Mt. 59601

SODIUM CYANIDE PROGRAM FOR COYOTE CONTROL

The Montana Department of Livestock has been given approval by the federal Environmental Protection Agency to begin the experimental use of the poison sodium cyanide to kill coyotes and red foxes that threaten livestock in Montana.

The program is designed to measure the effectiveness of sodium cyanide spring loaded ejector mechanisms (M-44's) as a method of reducing domestic livestock losses due to predation and will evaluate how many nontarget animals are affected by the use of the device. The M-44 is baited with a scented tuft

of lamb, and when triggered by an animal biting the bait, releases a puff of poison gas.

The program has been authorized for only certain portions of the following counties:

Beaverhead	Sweet Grass	Garfield
Madison	Stillwater	Rosebud
Gallatin	Fergus	Powder River
Meagher	Carbon	Custer
Judith Basin	Musselshell	Carter
Teton	Phillips	McCone
Wheatland	Petroleum	Dawson

In order to use the M-44, state and county trappers, and trappers hired by stockmen and livestock associations will have to be licensed by the state following completion of a training course offered jointly by the Department of Livestock and the Department of Agriculture.

The program will be directed by Kenneth Seyler, Environmental Coordinator, Department of Livestock, Brands-Enforcement Division, Helena, Mt. 59601. A negative declaration on the program has been filed with the EQC and copies are available from Mr. Seyler.

NEW ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENTS April 16-30

Date Received	STATE --- Subject	Originating Agency	
4-18-74	Snow Cap Peaks Subdivision in Mineral Co. about 6 mi. w. of Superior. 125.42 acres divided into 22 lots.	DHES	N
4-18-74	4-Lane in Yellowstone; 4-Lane in Treasure Co. Safety upgrading for 4-Lane highway in Yellowstone and Treasure counties.	DH	N
4-18-74	Gates of the Mountains Lakeshore Homes Subdivision. Located in Lewis & Clark Co. 225.75 acres. 91 lots.	DHES	F
4-24-74	Greycliff East Prairie Dog Town Access Road. A road will be built approx. 1 mi. s. of the prairie dog town. At the end of the road, a cul-de-sac and parking area will be built.	DH	N

New environmental impact statements (continued).

Date Received	STATE --- Subject	Originating Agency	
4-26-74	Sterling Estates Subdivision. Located near Woods Bay in Lake Co. 3 mi. so. of Bigfork. 92 acres.	DHES	D
4-26-74	Anaconda Co. Smelter, Anaconda Air Pollution Variance requested. The Anaconda Company has requested a variance from the state's sulfur oxide emission standard. The variance is sought for one year, the maximum period for which a variance may be granted although it may be renewed if such action seems reasonable.	DHES	F
4-30-74	Program for Experimental Use of the Sodium Cyanide Loaded Ejector Mechanism for predator Control (M-44).	DL	N
4-30-74	Radersburg-Toston. S.W. of Toston-North. Plant mix surfacing overlay of the existing roadway.	DH	N

D - draft statement
EW - emergency waiver
F - final statement
N - negative declaration

DHES - Dept. of Health & Environmental Sciences
DH - Department of Highways
DL - Department of Livestock

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